

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/733,131

Examiner

Mitchell R Slavitt

Applicant(s)

EHRlich ET AL.

Art Unit

2651

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an IDS dated 3/10/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-21.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 December 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/10/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Reasons for Allowance

1. Claims 1-21 are allowed as the prior art does not teach or suggest the applicant's invention. Claim 1 teaches a method to determine a position of a head. The distinguishing elements of the claim are: measuring the plurality of pulses with the head; moving the head across the reference surface; detecting the gap; and determining the position based on detecting the gap.

Claim 8 teaches a method to determine a position of a head. The distinguishing elements of the claim are: detecting the plurality of pulses with the head; moving the head across the reference surface in a first direction; detecting the gap; moving the head across the reference surface in a second direction opposite the first direction; detecting at least one edge of the gap; and determining a gross position based on the at least one edge.

Claim 14 teaches a method to determine a position of a head. The distinguishing elements of the claim are: detecting the plurality of pulses with the head; moving the head across the reference surface in a first direction; detecting an absence of at least one of the pulses; moving the head across the reference surface in a second direction the first direction; detecting a radial transition from a presence at least one of the pulses to the absence of at least one of the pulses; and determining a gross position based on the radial transition; measuring a phase of at least one of the chevrons measured at substantially the same radial location as the radial transition; determining a fine position based on the phase.

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Claim 17 teaches a method to manufacture a reference surface for self-servo writing one or more surfaces. The distinguishing elements of the claim are: selecting a transfer medium having a template pattern including a marker-zone to determine a position of a head on the reference surface, the marker-zone including one or more edges defined by a radial transition from a presence of a transition-pair to an absence of the transition-pair; wherein at least one of the one or more edges is located at a radial position; and wherein the at least one of the one or more edges precedes one or more chevrons located at the radial position; selecting a master disk having one or more surfaces; transferring the template pattern to one or the one or more surfaces of the master disk.

Claim 21 teaches a method to manufacture a template pattern. The distinguishing elements of the claim are: wherein at least one of the one or more edges is located at a radial position; and wherein the at least one of the one or more edges precede one or more chevrons located at the radial position.


2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mitchell R Slavitt whose telephone number is (571) 272-7562. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (6:30-4:00), 2nd Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David R Hudspeth can be reached on (571) 272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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4/18/05


DAVID HUDSPETH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600